GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:508
ANSWERED ON:10.04.2017
Review of EPF Scheme
Ramachandran Shri Krishnan Narayanasamy

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government has undertaken any review/proposes to review the Employees" Provident Fund (EPF) Scheme;
(b)if so, the details and the findings thereof along with the follow-up action taken thereon;
(c)whether the Government has received representations/proposals from various quarters in this regard; and
(d)if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 508 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017 BY SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN REGARDING REVIEW OF EPF SCHEME.

(a) & (b): Review of Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 is an ongoing process based on the changing socio-economic scenario to safeguard the interests of workers. On the basis of review of the Scheme, various amendments to the Scheme have been carried out in the recent past, which, inter alia, are as follows:-

(i) Reduction of Administrative Charges payable by the Employer for the purpose of paragraph 30 and sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 38 of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 from 0.85 per cent to 0.65 per cent of the pay.

(ii) Allowing private sector banks to collect statutory dues under Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 electronically through internet banking.

(iii) An Employees' Enrolment Campaign was launched for the period 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2017 which has now been extended upto 30th June 2017. During the Campaign, various financial incentives are being offered to establishments to enrol their workers.

(iv) The Government, vide notification no. G.S.R.1065 (E) dated 11th November, 2016 has amended Paragraph 72(6) of the Scheme wherein changes have been made in the conditions leading to becoming an account as an Inoperative Account.

(v) The Government, vide notification no. G.S.R. 1035 (E) dated 2nd November, 2016 has amended the EPF Scheme, 1952 providing that the worker who is a Nepalese national on account of Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950 and the worker who is a Bhutanese national on account of India-Bhutan Friendship Treaty of 2007 shall be deemed to be an Indian Worker.

(c) & (d): Representations from various quarters/stakeholders are received for review/amendment of EPF Scheme, 1952. The suggestions so received are considered while carrying out amendment to the Scheme.
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